

Remarks

Claims 1, 3, 4, 8-15 and 20 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 3, 4, 9, 13 and 15 have been amended in various particulars as indicated hereinabove. Claims 2, 5-7 and 16-19 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ikeda *et al.* (US patent 6,788,683) in view of Yoshizawa *et al.* (U.S. Patent 6,944,169) and in further view of Kalkunte *et al.* (U.S. Patent Publication 2002/0034187). This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Each of claims requires determining a most granular bit-value mask by finding a longest prefix match. This is not shown by the applied references.

The teaching of this feature as been attributed to Ikeda at col. 9, lines 49-56:

data packet comprising a data unit, namely, the data packet carrying the I-frame data. This is easily implemented in software, in firmware, or in logic circuitry which handles the packetizing of the video data for transmission. It is understood that for other data server applications, other appropriate logic, firmware, or software would be used to determine when and how the triggering information would be provided.

It is clearly evident that this portion fails to suggest anything akin to a longest prefix match.

Thus there is no *prima facie* obviousness and the rejection should be withdrawn.

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It is believed that the present application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited. Should any questions arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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